**Glacier County Commissioners**
**Thursday, June 19, 2025**
**Regular Meeting**
**Cut Bank, MT**

The Glacier County Board of Commissioners met at a regularly scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2025. Commissioners Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux and Sam Bird III were present. Commissioner Mary Jo Bremner was absent due to a MACo District 4 & 5 meeting in Conrad. Kimberly Ankerpont was taking minutes.

**Present at the meeting:** Jake Gustafson, Leavitt Group Insurance Producer; Chancy Kittson, Glacier County CFO; Judd Milender, Glacier County Office of Emergency Management Director

**Present via GoToMeeting:** David R. Irvin, Northern Transit Interlocal Executive Director/Coordinator; KIMMET

**A. Roll Call**
The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**B. Approval of Agenda**
Commission Bird moved and Commissioner Billedeaux seconded to approve the agenda; motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**C. Discussion/Approval: Glacier County Transit – Glacier County Commissioners**
The Commissioners, Chancy Kittson and David R. Irvin discuss the status and future of the Glacier County Transit. No decisions were made.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

**D. Discussion/Approval: Resolution No. 2025-13 Drought Emergency Declaration – Judd Milender, Glacier County Office of Emergency Management Director**
Commissioner Bird moved and Commissioner Billedeaux seconded to approve Resolution No. 2025-13 Drought Emergency Declaration; motion carried.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

**GLACIER COUNTY RESOLUTION**
**Resolution No. 2025-13**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GLACIER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMING A DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN GLACIER COUNTY, MONTANA**

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-103(8), M.C.A. defines "emergency" as the imminent threat of a disaster causing immediate peril to life or property that timely action can avert or minimize; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-402(2), M.C.A. provides that an emergency proclamation may be issued by order or resolution whenever the principal executive officer determines there is an emergency; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-103(11), M.C.A. defines "principal executive officer" as the presiding officer of the county commissioners; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-404(1), M.C.A. provides that an order or resolution declaring a state of emergency shall indicate the nature of the emergency, the area threatened, and the conditions which have brought about the proclamation; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-404(2), M.C.A. provides that the effect of an emergency proclamation is to activate applicable parts of the local or interjurisdictional disaster and emergency plan and program and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance in accordance with such plans and programs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Glacier County Board of Commissioners are the duly elected governing body of Glacier County, Montana, vested with the authority to enact resolutions to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents pursuant to Section 7-5-2101, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-406(1) M.C.A., upon the proclamation of an emergency and the issuance of an order as required by 10-3-404, authorizes the principal executive officer to compel evacuations, control ingress and egress to and from an emergency area, and control the movement of persons within the area; and

**WHEREAS,** the principal executive officer of Glacier County, Montana, contemporaneously herewith, determines there is an emergency (10-3-402(2)), as set forth verbatim below this resolution; and

**WHEREAS,** the principal executive officer of Glacier County, Montana, contemporaneously herewith, issues a local emergency proclamation (10-3-402(1)), as set forth verbatim below this resolution; and

**WHEREAS,** Glacier County is experiencing severe drought conditions, as evidenced by data from the U.S. Drought Monitor and local observations, which indicate D2, Severe Drought, across most of Glacier County, with a small section of southern Glacier County being categorized as D3, Extreme Drought, adversely affecting water supply, agriculture, and public health; and

**WHEREAS,** prolonged drought conditions have led to diminished water availability, reduced crop yields, increased wildfire risk, and economic hardship for residents, businesses, and agricultural producers in Glacier County; and

**WHEREAS,** the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) recognize drought as a natural disaster that may warrant emergency action to mitigate impacts on public welfare and safety; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 10-3-402, MCA, authorizes the Glacier County Board of Commissioners to proclaim a state of emergency to address immediate threats to life, property, and public welfare caused by drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** a drought emergency proclamation will enable Glacier County to access state and federal resources if available, coordinate with the Glacier County Office of Emergency Management, and implement necessary measures to mitigate the impacts of the drought; and

**WHEREAS,** the Glacier County Board of Commissioners finds that immediate action is necessary to protect the health, safety, and economic well-being of its residents and to ensure the continued provision of essential services during this drought crisis.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Glacier County Board of Commissioners:

1. **Proclamation of Drought Emergency**: The Glacier County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims a state of Drought Emergency within the exterior boundaries of Glacier County, Montana, effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

2. **Duration**: This emergency proclamation shall remain in effect until such time as the Glacier County Board of Commissioners, via consult with the Glacier County Office of Emergency Management, determines that drought conditions no longer constitute an immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the county's residents, or until terminated by subsequent resolution, in accordance with Section 10-3-406, MCA.

3. **Emergency Powers**: The Director of the Glacier County Office of Emergency Management, Judd Milender, is hereby granted a Delegation of Authority which authorizes the expenditure of necessary funds and resources to address the drought emergency and is authorized to coordinate response efforts, including but not limited to water conservation measures, fire prevention activities, and coordination with state and federal agencies to secure emergency funding and resources if needed and available.

4. **Resource Allocation**: The Glacier County Board of Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of necessary funds and resources to address the drought emergency, including the implementation of water restrictions, support for agricultural producers, and public education campaigns, subject to applicable budgetary constraints and approvals.

5. **Coordination with Tribal Authorities**: Recognizing the Blackfeet Tribe has declared a Drought Emergency within the exterior Boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation and the sovereign status of the Blackfeet Tribe within Glacier County, the Commission shall coordinate, either directly or indirectly through the Glacier County Office of Emergency Management, with tribal authorities to ensure a unified response to the drought emergency, as appropriate.

6. **Public Notification**: The Glacier County Board of Commissioners directs that this Resolution be published and disseminated to the public through appropriate channels, including county websites, local media, and other communication platforms, to inform residents of the drought emergency and any associated restrictions or guidelines.

7. **Severability**: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

8. **Effective Date**: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Glacier County Commission.

**ADOPTED** by the Glacier County Commission, Montana, on this 19th day of June, 2025, by a vote of 2/0.

**BOARD OF GLACIER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

\s\ Vernon "Napi" Billedeaux, Chair
\s\ Sam Bird III, Member
**ATTEST:**
\s\Mandi Bird Kennerly, Glacier County Clerk & Recorder

## OTHER BUSINESS:

**E. Review/Sign: Payroll/Claims**

***Dated for June 19, 2025***

***CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT***

| *FUND* | *ACCOUNT* | *AMOUNT* |
|---|---|---|
| 1000 | General Fund | $ 90,862.28 |
| 2110 | Road Fund | $ 24,131.55 |
| 2140 | Weed Control | $ 664.66 |
| 2150 | Predatory Animal | $ 60.00 |
| 2180 | County District Court | $ 1,856.16 |
| 2220 | Library | $ 836.76 |
| 2230 | Ambulance | $ 74.81 |
| 2250 | City-County Planning | $ 1,250.00 |
| 2260 | Emergency Disaster (DES) | $ 110.52 |
| 2280 | Senior Citizens (Parkview) | $ 12,106.00 |
| 2282 | Aging Service - Transport (Parkview) | $ 16,037.00 |
| 2300 | Public Safety (Law) | $ 31,993.28 |
| 2341 | CB RRL FIRE DEPT | $ 329.77 |
| 2342 | Del Bonita VFD | $ 34.53 |
| 2343 | East Glacier VFD | $ 123.37 |
| 2360 | Museum | $ 163.24 |
| 2410 | Glacier Park Lights | $ 532.32 |
| 2752 | Library Memorial Fund - From 7052 | $ 1,063.83 |
| 2850 | 911 Emergency (Sheriff) | $ 501.93 |
| 2863 | Glacier County Transit | $ 545.85 |
| 2918 | Sheriff Law Enforcement Grant (Stonegarden) | $ 30,895.39 |
| 2960 | Health Grants - Emergency Prep | $ 1,068.05 |
| 2976 | Immunization Grant | $ 83.81 |
| 7302 | West End Cemetery | $ 1,994.93 |
| | **TOTAL CLAIMS** | **$ 217,320.04** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **PAYROLL** | **$ 258,154.81** |
| | **TOTAL PAYROLL & CLAIMS** | **$ 475,474.85** |

**F. Approval of Minutes: 6/3, 6/5 & 6/10/2025**

Commissioner Bird moved and Commissioner Billedeaux seconded to approve the 6/3, 6/5 & 6/10/2025 minutes; motion carried.

**G. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**H. Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – Browning**

Commissioner Bird moved and Commissioner Billedeaux seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 a.m.; motion carried.